



PATENT
065618.0109

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I hereby certify that I have information and a reasonable basis for belief that this correspondence will be deposited as first-class mail with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 15, 2004.

Signature

3-15-04

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

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Hieb, Larry E.

§

Group No.: 3653

Serial No.: 10/635,962

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Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 7, 2003

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Invention: Retractable Gauge Step for Flexible
Multi-Depth Vending

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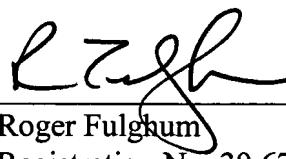
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant respectfully requests, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the art listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that these references are material to the patentability of the present application. In accordance with the guidance provided in 1276 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off. 55, copies of the U.S. patents identified in the attached PTO-1449 are not included herewith.

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being submitted before the mailing of the earlier of the first office action on the merits, the mailing date of a final office action, or a notice of allowance. Applicant believes that no fee is required. If a fee is required, please charge any fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0383 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger Fulghum
Registration No. 39,678

Baker Botts L.L.P.
One Shell Plaza
910 Louisiana
Houston, TX 77002-4995
(713) 229-1707

Attorney Docket No.: 065618.0109

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